

reduce its grade. In either of these cases, be so good as only to signify to me your ultimate wish, and I will conform to it accordingly. If it should be to remain in New York, my chief comfort will be to work under your eye, my only shelter the authority of your name, and the wisdom of measures to be dictated by you and implicitly executed by me. (To Washington, in reply to an offer of the office of Secretary of State, 1789. F. V., 141.)

PUBLIC SERVICE.—The happiest moments of my life have been the few which I have passed at home in the bosom of my family. Employment anywhere else is a mere (?) of time; it is burning the candle of life in perfect waste for the individual himself. I have no complaint against anybody. I have had more of the confidence of my country than my share. I only say that public employment contributes neither to advantage or happiness. It is but honorable exile from one's family and affairs. (To Francis Willis, 1790. F. V., 157.)

THE PULPIT.—Whenever preachers, instead of a lesson in religion, put them off with a discourse on the Copernican system, on chemical affinities, on the construction of government, or the characters or conduct of those administering it, it is a breach of contract, depriving their audience of the kind of service for which they are salaried, and giving them, instead of it, what they did not want, or if wanted, would rather seek from better sources in that particular art or science. In choosing our pastor we look to his religious qualifications, without inquiring into his physical or political dogmas, with which we mean to have nothing to do. I am aware that arguments may be found which may twist a thread of politics into the cord of religious duties. So may they for every other branch of human art or science. Thus, for example, it is a religious duty to-obey the laws of our country; the teacher of religion, therefore, must instruct us in those laws, that we may know how to obey them. It is a religious duty to assist our sick neighbors; the preacher must, therefore, teach us medicine, that we may do it understandingly. It is a religious duty to preserve our own health; our religious teacher, then, must tell its what dishes